

**What are driver record abstracts?**

Driver record abstracts are computer-generated copies of DMV's driver records. Most driver record entries are retained for the preceding five years; however, certain convictions can result in a driver record being retained indefinitely. Driver abstracts contain the following standard information:

- name and address
- driver license or identification card number
- sex and date of birth
- former names
- dates and types of traffic convictions, accidents, restrictions, and withdrawals

**Who requests these abstracts?**

Federal and state government agencies, county courts and enforcement agencies request information for various reasons. These abstracts are provided at no cost to the users.

Insurance companies, employers, school bus contractors, businesses, and the general public also request information for various reasons. These users pay a fee for the abstracts.

**Why does DOT provide this information?**

Wisconsin's Motor Vehicle Law and Open Records Law provide that anyone who requests and pays the appropriate fee and is accompanied by a completed Vehicle/Driver Record Information Request form(MV2896) can obtain any person's driver record information.

**What is MV2896?**

The Federal Drivers' Privacy Protection Act became effective on April 13, 2000, causing any request for driver record information to be accompanied by a MV2896 (DPPA) form. The form requires information regarding the requester, name of person about whom record(s) are being requested and authorization for the information.

**Is any information confidential?**

Medical information is confidential and is only released if the driver has signed a release authorization form.

Certain information on juveniles (such as suspensions for juvenile alcohol and truancy) is also confidential and will only be released to courts, law enforcement and, in some cases, parents or guardians.

Social Security numbers are used for driver licensing purposes and are not available to the public.

Identification (ID) card information is also confidential and can only be released to the following: the courts; district attorneys; county corporation counsels; city, village or town attorneys; law enforcement agencies; the ID card holder; or to the parent/legal guardian of an ID card holder who is under 18 years of age.

**Can drivers request suppression of personal identifiable data on files used for marketing and research?**

Yes, customers can “opt out” by completing MV3592. If 10 or more records are requested, their personal identifiable data will be suppressed. There are currently 569,931 driver records containing the “opt out” notation. Forms can be obtained at all DMV Service Centers and online at <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/links/optout.htm>.

**How are requests made?**

Requests can be made in writing or by calling 608-266-2353. Some large volume requesters maintain telephone accounts for immediate response by our computerized automated voice system (DOTI), or telephone personnel. Other volume users provide computer tapes of requests, for next-day return of abstract information.

Written copies of abstracts are \$5 each. Telephone account holders pay \$6 per request when they receive information over the phone from an operator in addition to a printed abstract. Telephone account holders may receive information via DOTI, at \$5 per inquiry.

**For more information contact:**

Bureau of Driver Services  
Records and Licensing Information Section  
Customer Service Unit  
(608) 266-2353  
Email: [rlis.dmv@dot.state.wi.us](mailto:rlis.dmv@dot.state.wi.us)

